NEWS

From County Supervisor Janice Rutherford www.sbcounty.gov/Rutherford

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Supervisors Approve First Phase of Cherry Avenue Widening Project

SAN BERNARDINO – On Tuesday, the San Bernardino County Board of Supervisors approved a \$775,700 contract to begin the first phase of a project to widen Cherry Avenue from Whittram Avenue to Foothill Boulevard in Fontana.

The first phase, which is scheduled to begin in early January, entails grading the roadway to the current right of way, relocating utilities and business signs, constructing retaining walls, and installing block walls with wrought iron fencing in front of residential properties. It will take about a year to complete the first phase.

The final phase, which will begin in early 2011, includes widening Cherry Avenue from two to three lanes in each direction from Whittram Avenue to Foothill Boulevard and installing a median with landscaping. It will cost about \$5 million and will take about a year to complete.

"Cherry Avenue is a major economic corridor that runs through the heart of San Bernardino County's successful San Sevaine Redevelopment Area, and transportation improvements such as this are key to fueling economic development along Cherry and throughout the RDA," Second District Supervisor Janice Rutherford said.

Residents and business owners will receive a letter informing them of the project start date one week prior to the start of construction. Temporary lane and shoulder closures will be necessary during the first phase. Motorists are urged to use caution in the construction zone.

In addition to widening Cherry Avenue, the County of San Bernardino is also the lead agency on the \$76 million reconstruction of the Cherry Avenue/I-10 interchange. The reconstruction of the interchange is scheduled to begin in the summer of 2011 and will take about three years to complete.

Second District Supervisor Rutherford represents the cities of Fontana, Rancho Cucamonga and Upland as well as the unincorporated communities of Crestline, San Antonio Heights, Lytle Creek, Devore, and Mt. Baldy.